

Urban Design Framework for

The Near Southeast

DRAFT

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A N A W I T A R G E T A R E A P L A N
W A S H I N G T O N D C



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ANTHONY A. WILLIAMS
MAYOR

Dear Friend of the Near Southeast,

The Near Southeast is one of Washington's oldest neighborhoods with settlements predating the creation of the Nation's Capital. Today, it is experiencing one of the largest transformations of any waterfront neighborhood in the entire country. It is a unique community where people live, work and play on the waterfront of the Anacostia River.

In May of 2000 the District of Columbia Office of Planning and the U.S. General Services Administration held an extraordinary public workshop. Over a period of 3 days more than 200 residents and business owners came together with representatives from the Navy, the District of Columbia Housing Authority, the National Park Service and other government agencies to create a common vision for the future of the Near Southeast.

Foremost in this discussion has been the challenge of introducing new development that benefits the existing community and creates a new waterfront neighborhood. Residents were especially interested in ways to provide housing and overcome the barriers that separate the existing community from the Anacostia River and surrounding neighborhoods. Ultimately, the planning process produced a vision that integrates affordable and market rate housing with commercial uses and new public parks which together work to recover the Anacostia waterfront as an essential amenity for everyone to enjoy.

This vision is beginning to be implemented. Over \$3 billion of both public and private investments are being made in this neighborhood over a five-year timeframe. The construction cranes are visible and additional commitments are being made. Not only has the Navy Yard been completely revitalized, but new housing and shops are planned in order to create a sustainable neighborhood.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all public and private stakeholders who have worked so hard to create this vision, including the acknowledgement of the unique collaboration of District and Federal agencies. Your participation and enthusiasm in this planning process has been unprecedented. This document is not the end of a process - it is the beginning. Our collaboration must continue so that the aspirations of this vision become our shared reality.

Sincerely,

Anthony A. Williams





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A Vision For the Near Southeast

Washington's Near Southeast is an emerging waterfront neighborhood at the doorstep to the U.S. Capitol. It is a dense mixed-use neighborhood, which creates unprecedented public access to the Anacostia River and provides new development opportunities for mixed-income housing, offices, retail uses and cultural destinations. A network of streets, parks and esplanades help to create a model transit-oriented neighborhood and re-establish the settlement of historic Carrollsborg on the Anacostia River. The revitalization effort is sustained by a unique partnership between the Federal and District governments, which seeks to promote citizen engagement and private sector investment.



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